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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/816,149	FLEXMAN, EDMUND ARTHUR	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	William K. Cheung	1713	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to IDS.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>111904, 071404</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

Allowances

1. Claims 1-18 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As of the date of this office action, the examiner has not located or identified any reference that can be used singularly or in combination with another reference including the closest prior art of George (US 2002/0129742 A1) to render the present invention anticipated or obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

*The invention of claims 1-18 relates to a **resin composition**, comprising:*

*(iii) about **1 to about 96 weight percent poly(lactic acid)**,*

*(iv) about **1 to about 96 weight percent polyoxymethylene**, and*

*(iii) about **3 to about 40 weight percent of an impact modifier** comprising an **ethylene copolymer impact modifier** derived from copolymerizing:*

*(a) about **20 to about 95 weight percent ethylene**;*

*(b) about **3 to about 70 weight percent** of one or more olefin of the formula $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}(\text{R}^1)\text{CO}_2\text{R}^2$ where R^1 is hydrogen or an alkyl group with 1-8 carbon atoms and R^2 is an alkyl group with 1-8 carbon atoms; and*

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(c) about 0.5 to about 25 weight percent of one or more olefins of the formula $\text{CH}_2=\text{C}(\text{R}^3)\text{CO}_2\text{R}^4$ where R^3 is hydrogen or an alkyl group with 1-6 carbon atoms, and R^4 is glycidyl,

wherein the weight percentages of the poly(lactic acid), polyoxymethylene, and the impact modifier are based on the total weight of the poly(lactic acid), polyoxymethylene, and the impact modifier.

The closest prior art George (page 3, paragraph 0031) discloses a composition comprising polyoxymethylene homopolymers and copolymers and ethylene-acrylate copolymers. Although George (page 1, paragraph 0019) discloses the use of surfactants comprising lactic acid, George is silent on a resin composition comprising polylactic acid. Therefore, it would not be apparent to one of ordinary skill in art to use the teachings of George to obtain the invention of claims 1-18. Claims 1-18 are allowed.

In light of the above discussion, it is evident as to why the present claims are patentable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William K Cheung whose telephone number is (571) 272-1097. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00AM to 2:00PM; 4:00PM to 8:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David WU can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



William K. Cheung

Primary Patent Examiner

May 1, 2005

WILLIAM K. CHEUNG
PRIMARY EXAMINER